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Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Working Group on Asset Recovery
12th Session
Vienna, 6–7 June 2018

Draft report

I. Introduction

1. In its resolutions 1/4, 2/3, 3/3, 4/4, 5/3, 6/2, 6/3 and 7/1, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption established and continued the work of the open-ended intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

2. The Conference also welcomed the outcome of the meetings of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery and invited the Working Group to propose future agenda items, and decided that the Working Group should continue its work by, inter alia:

(a) Continuing its efforts to gather information on and conduct enhanced analysis of best practices for the identification and compensation of all different types of victims in accordance with the Convention, including, as necessary, by soliciting information from States parties, facilitating exchanges among experts and organizing expert panels, while taking into consideration similar work undertaken at prior meetings of the Working Group, by expert panels and in discussions;

(b) Conducting analysis on third-party challenges and their impact on asset recovery under chapter V;

(c) Continuing to collect data on best practices, with a view to developing non-binding guidelines concerning the timely sharing of information to enable States parties to take appropriate action, in accordance with article 56 of the Convention;

(d) Conducting an analysis of how communication and coordination between various asset recovery practitioner networks could be improved, with a view to developing guidelines for the proactive and timely sharing of information, as mentioned in subparagraph (c) above.

II. Organization of the meeting

A. Opening of the meeting

3. The Working Group on Asset Recovery held its twelfth session in Vienna on 6 and 7 June 2018, which included two meetings held jointly with the Implementation Review Group on 6 June.

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4. The twelfth session of the Working Group was chaired by Vivian N. R. Okeke (Nigeria) and Ignacio Baylina Ruiz (Spain).

B. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

5. On 6 June 2018, the Working Group adopted the following agenda:

1. Organizational matters:

   (a) Opening of the meeting;

   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

2. Overview of progress made in the implementation of asset recovery mandates.

3. Forum for advancing practical aspects of asset recovery, including challenges and good practices.

4. Thematic discussions:

   (a) Timely sharing of information to enable States parties to take appropriate action, in accordance with article 56 of the Convention: collection of data with a view to developing non-binding guidelines;

   (b) Improving communication and coordination between various asset recovery practitioner networks, with a view to developing guidelines for the proactive and timely sharing of information.

5. Forum for discussions on capacity-building and technical assistance.

6. Adoption of the report.

C. Attendance

6. The following States Parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting of the Working Group: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Lichtenstein, Malawi, Malta, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

7. The European Union, a regional economic integration organization that is a party to the Convention, was represented at the meeting.

8. The following United Nations programmes and funds, institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network and specialized agencies of the United Nations system were represented by observers: Basel Institute of Governance, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), International Labour Office (ILO), World Bank (WB).

9. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC), European Police Office

(EUROPOL), International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

10. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta, an entity maintaining a permanent observer office at Headquarters, was represented.